

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A musical content utilizing apparatus comprising:

an input portion inputting musical content data comprising different kinds of content material data about music and content definition data defining the handling of the content material data;

a utilization portion providing a user with musical information through the use of said input content material data; and

a transformation portion transforming said input content definition data in order to make the content definition data applicable to said utilization portion and supplying the transformed content definition data to said utilization portion.

2. A musical content utilizing apparatus according to claim 1,

wherein

said transformation portion comprises:

a stylesheet storage portion storing a stylesheet defining a transformation rule applied to said content definition data; and

a transformation process portion conducting a process of transforming said input content definition data in accordance with the stylesheet stored in said stylesheet storage portion.

3. A musical content utilizing apparatus according to claim 2,

wherein

said stylesheet stored in said stylesheet storage portion is upgradable.

4. A musical content utilizing apparatus according to claim 2,

wherein

said utilization portion has a display unit;

said stylesheet includes data defining a display layout on said display unit of a content material represented by said content material data; and

said utilization portion controls, on the basis of said data defining the display layout, the display layout on the display unit of the content material represented by said content material data.

5. A computer program applied to a musical content utilizing apparatus providing a user with musical content, said program including the processes of:

an input process inputting musical content data comprising different kinds of content material data about music and content definition data defining the handling of the content material data;

a utilization process providing a user with musical information through the use of said input content material data; and

a transformation process transforming said input content definition data in order to make the content definition data applicable to said utilization process.

6. A computer program according to claim 5, wherein said transformation process conducting a process of transforming said input content definition data in accordance with a stylesheet defining a transformation rule applied to said content definition data, said stylesheet being stored in a memory of said musical content utilizing apparatus.

7. A computer program according to claim 6, wherein said stylesheet stored in said memory is upgradable.

8. A computer program according to claim 6, wherein said musical content utilizing apparatus has a display unit;

said stylesheet includes data defining a display layout on said display unit of a content material represented by said content material data; and

said utilization process controls, on the basis of said data defining the display layout, the display layout on the display unit of the content material represented by said content material data.

9. A musical content utilizing apparatus comprising:

an input portion inputting musical content data comprising different kinds of content material data about music and content definition data containing plug-in designation data designating a plug-in program required on utilizing said content material data; and

a utilization portion providing a user with musical information based on said input content material data through the use of said plug-in program designated in accordance with said plug-in designation data contained in said input content definition data.

10. A musical content utilizing apparatus according to claim 9, wherein

said content definition data also includes a plug-in parameter utilized at the execution of a plug-in program; and

said utilization portion provides a user with musical information based on said input content material data through the use of said plug-in parameter as well.

11. A computer program applied to a musical content utilizing apparatus providing a user with musical content, said program including the processes of:

an input process inputting musical content data comprising different

kinds of content material data about music and content definition data containing plug-in designation data designating a plug-in program required on utilizing said content material data; and

a utilization process providing a user with musical information based on said input content material data through the use of said plug-in program designated in accordance with said plug-in designation data contained in said input content definition data.

12. A computer program according to claim 11, wherein said content definition data also includes a plug-in parameter utilized at the execution of a plug-in program; and

said utilization process provides a user with musical information based on said input content material data through the use of said plug-in parameter as well.

13. A musical content utilizing apparatus having a display unit, said musical content utilizing apparatus comprising:

an input portion inputting musical content data including different kinds of content material data about music;

a display control portion displaying concurrently different kinds of content materials represented by said input different kinds of content material data on said display unit while displaying on the display unit a reproduction controlling tool for controlling the reproduction of said content materials; and

an active material designation portion designating, from among said different kinds of content materials displayed on said display unit, a content material whose reproduction is to be controlled by said reproduction controlling tool.

14. A musical content utilizing apparatus according to claim 13, wherein

said active material designation portion conducts, on the basis of user's operation on an operator, designation of a content material whose reproduction is to be controlled by said reproduction controlling tool.

15. A musical content utilizing apparatus according to claim 13, wherein

said musical content data also includes content definition data designating a content material whose reproduction is controlled by said reproduction controlling tool; and

said active material designation portion conducts, on the basis of said content definition data, designation of a content material whose reproduction is to be controlled by said reproduction controlling tool.

16. A computer program applied to a musical content utilizing apparatus having a display unit, said computer program including the processes of:

an input process inputting musical content data including different kinds of content material data about music;

a display control process displaying concurrently on said display unit different kinds of content materials represented by said input different kinds of content material data while displaying on said display unit a reproduction controlling tool for controlling the reproduction of said content materials; and

an active material designation process designating, from among said different kinds of content materials displayed on said display unit, a content material whose reproduction is to be controlled by said reproduction controlling tool.

17. A computer program according to claim 16, wherein
said active material designation process conducts, on the basis of
user's operation on an operator, designation of a content material whose
reproduction is to be controlled by said reproduction controlling tool.

18. A computer program according to claim 16, wherein
said musical content data also includes content definition data
designating a content material whose reproduction is controlled by said
reproduction controlling tool; and

said active material designation process conducts, on the basis of
said content definition data, designation of a content material whose
reproduction is to be controlled by said reproduction controlling tool.

19. A musical content utilizing apparatus having a display unit,
said musical content utilizing apparatus comprising:

an input portion inputting musical content data comprising different
kinds of content material data about music and content definition data
including a material displaying instruction for displaying on said display unit
content materials represented by said different kinds of content material
data and a tool displaying instruction for displaying on said display unit a
reproduction controlling tool for controlling the reproduction of said content
materials; and

a display control portion displaying on said display unit said different
kinds of content materials represented by said different kinds of content
material data input on the basis of said material displaying instruction
included in the content definition data while displaying on said display unit
said reproduction controlling tool on the basis of said tool displaying
instruction included in the content definition data.

20. A musical content utilizing apparatus according to claim 19, wherein

said content definition data also includes a content designating instruction designating a content material with which said reproduction controlling tool is displayed in corresponding relation to said tool displaying instruction; and

said display control portion displays said reproduction controlling tool in corresponding relation to said content material designated by said content designating instruction.

21. A computer program applied to a musical content utilizing apparatus having a display unit, said computer program including the processes of:

an input process inputting musical content data comprising different kinds of content material data about music and content definition data including a material displaying instruction for displaying on said display unit content materials represented by said different kinds of content material data and a tool displaying instruction for displaying on said display unit a reproduction controlling tool for controlling the reproduction of said content materials; and

a display control process displaying on said display unit said different kinds of content materials represented by said different kinds of content material data input on the basis of said material displaying instruction included in the content definition data while displaying on said display unit said reproduction controlling tool on the basis of said tool displaying instruction included in the content definition data.

22. A computer program according to claim 21, wherein

said content definition data also includes a content designating instruction designating a content material with which said reproduction controlling tool is displayed in corresponding relation to said tool displaying instruction; and

said display control process displays said reproduction controlling tool in corresponding relation to said content material designated by said content designating instruction.

23. A musical content utilizing apparatus having a display unit, said musical content utilizing apparatus comprising:

an input portion inputting musical content data comprising different kinds of content material data about music and content definition data including a material displaying instruction for displaying on said display unit content materials represented by the different kinds of content material data and a synchronous content reproducing instruction for designating content materials to be synchronously reproduced; and

a display control portion displaying on said display unit said different kinds of content materials represented by said input different kinds of content material data on the basis of said material displaying instruction included in said content definition data while displaying on said display unit a reproduction controlling tool for controlling the synchronous reproduction of the content materials designated by the synchronous content reproducing instruction included in said content definition data.

24. A musical content utilizing apparatus according to claim 23, wherein

said content definition data also includes a reproduction controlling tool instruction for displaying on said display unit said reproduction

controlling tool; and

said display control portion displays said reproduction controlling tool in accordance with said reproduction controlling tool instruction.

25. A computer program applied to a musical content utilizing apparatus having a display unit, said computer program including the processes of:

an input process inputting musical content data comprising different kinds of content material data about music and content definition data including a material displaying instruction for displaying on said display unit content materials represented by the different kinds of content material data and a synchronous content reproducing instruction for designating content materials to be synchronously reproduced; and

a display control process displaying on said display unit said different kinds of content materials represented by said input different kinds of content material data on the basis of said material displaying instruction included in said content definition data while displaying on said display unit a reproduction controlling tool for controlling the synchronous reproduction of the content materials designated by the synchronous content reproducing instruction included in said content definition data.

26. A computer program according to claim 25, wherein said content definition data also includes a reproduction controlling tool instruction for displaying on said display unit said reproduction controlling tool; and

said display control process displays said reproduction controlling tool in accordance with said reproduction controlling tool instruction.

27. A musical content utilizing apparatus comprising:

an input portion inputting musical content data including different kinds of content material data about music;

a filtering portion filtering said different kinds of content material data input at said input portion in order to extract applicable content material data from among said different kinds of content material data; and

a utilization portion providing a user with musical information through the use of content material data extracted at said filtering portion.

28. A musical content utilizing apparatus according to claim 27, wherein said filtering portion comprises:

a stylesheet storage portion storing a stylesheet defining content material data applicable to said utilization portion; and

a filtering process portion conducting a process of filtering said input content material data in accordance with the stylesheet stored in said stylesheet storage portion.

29. A musical content utilizing apparatus according to claim 28, wherein

said stylesheet stored in said stylesheet storage portion is upgradable.

30. A computer program applied to a musical content utilizing apparatus providing a user with musical content, said computer program including the processes of:

an input process inputting musical content data including different kinds of content material data about music;

a filtering process filtering said different kinds of content material data input at said input process in order to extract applicable content material data from among said different kinds of content material data; and

a utilization process providing a user with musical information through the use of the content material data extracted at said filtering process.

31. A computer program according to claim 30, wherein a filtering process conducts a process of filtering said input content material data in accordance with a stylesheet defining content material data applicable to said utilization process, said stylesheet being stored in a memory of said musical content utilizing apparatus.

32. A computer program according to claim 31, wherein said stylesheet stored in said memory is upgradable.